

HCR

8

Amendment to ~~CS~~HERC) "P" version
By Gruenberg

- 1 Page 3 line 11
- 2 After "sponsor" insert
- 3 **"joint prime sponsor or cosponsor"**
- 4 After "in" insert
- 5 **"the"**
- 6 Page 3 line 12
- 7 After "introduced." Insert
- 8 **A member may move to withdraw the member's name as cross-co-**
- 9 **sponsor of a measure when it is in the possession of the second**
- 10 **house.**

26-LS0366\P
Cook
1/28/10

CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8()

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY

**Offered:
Referred:**

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE GRUENBERG

A RESOLUTION

1 **Proposing amendments to the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature relating to**
2 **withdrawing measures, to sponsors of measures, to prefiling measures, and to three**
3 **readings of bills.**

4 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 * **Section 1.** Rule 27(b), Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature, is amended to read:

6 (b) After a bill or resolution has been introduced, or a motion for the adoption
7 of an amendment has been made, and is read by the clerk or secretary or stated by the
8 presiding officer, it is deemed to be in possession of the house. A measure in
9 possession of the house of origin [IT] may be withdrawn at any time before it is first
10 transmitted to the second house [BY THE MEMBER INTRODUCING OR
11 REPORTING IT] if consent is given by a majority vote of the full membership [OF
12 THE HOUSE]. Only the prime sponsor of the measure, a joint prime sponsor of
13 the measure with agreement of all other joint prime sponsors, or the chair of the
14 committee that introduced the measure may move to withdraw it.

15 * **Sec. 2.** Rule 36, Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature, is amended to read:

1 **Rule 36. Prefiling of Measures [BILLS].** (a) **Drafts of** [BILLS OR]
2 proposals for bills **or resolutions** may be **requested from** [PREFILED WITH THE
3 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF] the Legislative Affairs Agency at any time before
4 January 1. All requests are confidential [AND ARE LIMITED TO BILLS AND
5 THOSE JOINT RESOLUTIONS PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE STATE
6 OR FEDERAL CONSTITUTIONS]. **Each measure** [BILLS] given final approval by
7 the **prime sponsor or all joint prime sponsors** will be assigned a number and
8 duplicated **before or** during the week **before** [PRIOR TO] the convening date of the
9 session and made available to the press and public. A member **or member elect** may
10 request **as sole prime sponsor** no more than 10 **measures** [BILLS] for prefiling **and**
11 **as joint prime sponsor up to an additional 20 measures for prefiling.** **A draft**
12 [DRAFTS] of **a measure** [PREFILED BILLS] not receiving sponsor approval prior to
13 the **agency deadline for numbering and printing the prefiled measures**
14 [CONVENING DAY OF THE SESSION] will not be introduced as **a** prefiled
15 **measure** [BILLS], but, at the direction of the **prime sponsor or of all joint prime**
16 **sponsors,** will be prepared in final form by the agency staff, subject to the demands of
17 assigned interim and pre-session work.

18 (b) Prefiled **measures** [BILLS] are submitted to each house for formal
19 introduction and first reading at the commencement of the first regular session on the
20 day when the house is organized to the point where it has committees to receive
21 **measures** [BILLS], or on the first day of the second regular session. Prefiled
22 **measures** [BILLS] are read and referred to committee in advance of other **measures**
23 [BILLS].

24 * **Sec. 3.** Rule 37(a), Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature, is amended to read:

25 (a) Any member, group of members, standing, special, or joint committee may
26 introduce a **measure** [BILL], subject to the provisions of these Uniform Rules.
27 **Measures introduced by members must have at least one prime sponsor or more**
28 **than one joint prime sponsor, and may have cosponsors. After introduction,**
29 **when the measure is in the possession of the house of origin and with approval of**
30 **the prime sponsor or of all joint prime sponsors, additional members may be**
31 **added as joint prime sponsors or as cosponsors. When the measure is in the**

1 possession of the second house, a member of that house may be added as cross
2 cosponsor with the approval of the prime sponsor or of all joint prime sponsors.

3 A measure [BILL] must be introduced, in proper form as approved by the enrolling
4 secretary of the legislature, with the original and three copies delivered to the chief
5 clerk or secretary. The measure [BILL] is then assigned a number, which it retains
6 through subsequent changes and substitutions. The measure [BILL] is considered
7 formally introduced when the clerk or secretary reads the heading and title aloud in
8 open session (first reading). Measures [BILLS] may be introduced through the Rules
9 Committees by the governor and the permanent interim committees pursuant to
10 provisions of law. A member may move to withdraw the member's name as
11 sponsor of a measure when it is in possession of the house in which it was
12 introduced.

13 * Sec. 4. Rule 39(b), Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature, is amended to read:

14 (b) First Reading. The first reading consists of a reading aloud by the clerk or
15 secretary of the following information: [THE] house of origin, heading and [THE]
16 bill number, sponsorship [THE SPONSOR], and [THE] title of the bill, e.g., "In the
17 House, House Bill No. ..., by and, A bill for an Act entitled, 'An Act
18 relating to a code of ethics for state employees.'" Notwithstanding the foregoing, the
19 presiding officer may direct the clerk or secretary to dispense with the reading of
20 the full title, in which case only the first phrase of the title shall be read or so
21 much of it as is required by the presiding officer. The bill is then referred by the
22 presiding officer to one or more standing or special committees. The house may, by a
23 majority vote of the full membership of the house, refer the bill to any other standing
24 or special committee.

25 * Sec. 5. Rule 39(d), Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature, is amended to read:

26 (d) Third Reading. On its third reading the bill is read by heading and title
27 only. The presiding officer may direct the clerk or secretary to dispense with the
28 reading of the full title, in which case only the first phrase of the title shall be
29 read or so much of it as is required by the presiding officer. The question on third
30 reading of a bill is upon its final passage and no amendments may be considered. No
31 bill may become law without an affirmative vote of the majority of the membership of

1 each house. The yeas and nays on final passage, noting the name and vote of each
2 member, shall be entered in the journal. The bill is then engrossed or enrolled, as
3 appropriate, at the direction of the clerk or secretary.

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives



Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr.

House District 20

Anchorage (Mountain View, Russian Jack, East Anchorage)
House Minority Assistant Floor Leader

Member

Standing Committees:

Judiciary
State Affairs
Transportation

Finance Subcommittees:

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Courts
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Rep.Max.Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us

Sponsor Statement for HCR 8

HCR 8: Uniform Rules: Measure Sponsor/ Readings

"Proposing amendments to the Uniform Rules of Alaska State Legislature relating to withdrawing measures, to sponsors of measures, to prefiling measures, and to the three readings of bills."

This resolution updates the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature. It is important to update these rules to improve the functioning of the legislative body. It is the intent of this legislation to spark a conversation about how the legislature can operate more smoothly, efficiently, and fairly. This legislation touches upon a number of issues that are important to consider when updating the rules. These issues include the prefiling and joint prime sponsorship of measures, when a measure may be withdrawn and the reading of the full titles of measures on the floor. Thank you for considering this legislation and the future operation of the legislature. Please give us your thoughts, comments, and criticisms as this legislation is merely a vehicle for us all to help improve the rules. It is important that we have the best functioning legislature in the country.

Alaska State Legislature

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House Minority Assistant Floor Leader

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EXPLANATION OF CHANGES

Changes between HCR 8 and CS HCR 8:

- Drafting correction to last two sentences of Section 2; prefiled bills and prefiled resolutions are combined and referred to as “prefiled measures,” rather than in separate sentences. (see page 2, lines 21-23 of HCR 8 and page 2, lines 19-21 of CS HCR 8)
- Drafting correction to again refer to “bills and resolutions” as “measures.” (see page 3, line 8 of HCR 8 and page 3, line 6 of CS HCR 8)

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Sectional Analysis for HCR 8

By: Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr.

A Resolution "Proposing amendments to the Uniform Rules of Alaska State Legislature relating to withdrawing measures, to sponsors of measures, to prefiling measures, and to the three readings of bills."

The measure deals with a number of amendments to the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature.

Section 1 concerns the withdrawing of measures and amends Rule 27 (b). It amends the rule to allow the withdrawal of a measure before it is transmitted to the second house. It also amends the rule to detail who may move to withdraw a measure.

Section 2 deals with the prefiling of measures and amends Rule 36. It amends the number of measures that a member or member-elect may prefile as either the sole prime sponsor or joint prime sponsor. According to the current rule a member may only be the prime or joint prime sponsor on a total of ten prefiled bills. Under the new rule a member may be the sole prime sponsor of ten prefiled measures, plus the joint prime sponsor of an additional 20 measures.

Section 3 relates to the sponsorship of measures and amends Rule 37 (a) and permits joint prime sponsorship of measures regardless of whether they are prefiled or introduced later. It allows for the cross-sponsorship of legislation. It amends the rule to allow a member to remove his or her name from the measure as long as it is in the possession of the house in which it was introduced.

Section 4 & Section 5 concern the first and third readings of a measure and amend Rule 39 (b) & (d). They allow the presiding officer to direct the clerk to dispense with the reading of the entire title of the measure and only read a portion of it on first and third reading.

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE

TO: HCR 8

- 1 Page 2, line 7:
- 2 Delete "or all joint prime sponsors"
- 3 Insert "a joint prime sponsor"
- 4
- 5 Page 2, lines 15 - 16:
- 6 Delete "all joint prime sponsors"
- 7 Insert "a joint prime sponsor"

Member

Alaska State Legislature

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EXPLANATION OF CHANGES

Changes between HCR 8 and CS HCR 8:

- Title is shortened to reflect the removal of Sections 4 and 5 of HCR 8
- Drafting correction to last two sentences of Section 2; prefiled bills and prefiled resolutions are combined and referred to as "prefiled measures," rather than in separate sentences. (see page 2, lines 21-23 of HCR 8 and page 2, lines 19-21 of CS HCR 8)
- Drafting correction to again refer to "bills and resolutions" as "measures." (see page 3, line 8 of HCR 8 and page 3, line 6 of CS HCR 8)
- Sections 4 and 5 of HCR 8 were removed in their entirety in CS HCR 8.

26-LS0366VS
Cook
4/6/09

CS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8()
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE GRUENBERG

A RESOLUTION

1 **Proposing amendments to the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature relating to**
2 **withdrawing measures, to sponsors of measures, and to prefiling measures.**

3 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * **Section 1.** Rule 27(b), Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature, is amended to read:

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6 of an amendment has been made, and is read by the clerk or secretary or stated by the
7 presiding officer, it is deemed to be in possession of the house. A measure in
8 possession of the house of origin [IT] may be withdrawn at any time before it is first
9 transmitted to the second house [BY THE MEMBER INTRODUCING OR
10 REPORTING IT] if consent is given by a majority vote of the full membership [OF
11 THE HOUSE]. Only the prime sponsor of the measure, a joint prime sponsor of
12 the measure with agreement of all other joint prime sponsors, or the chair of the
13 committee that introduced the measure may move to withdraw it.

14 * **Sec. 2.** Rule 36, Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature, is amended to read:

15 **Rule 36. Prefiling of Measures [BILLS].** (a) Drafts of [BILLS OR]
16 proposals for bills or resolutions may be requested from [PREFILED WITH THE

1 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF] the Legislative Affairs Agency at any time before
2 January 1. All requests are confidential [AND ARE LIMITED TO BILLS AND
3 THOSE JOINT RESOLUTIONS PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE STATE
4 OR FEDERAL CONSTITUTIONS]. Each measure [BILLS] given final approval by
5 the prime sponsor or all joint prime sponsors will be assigned a number and
6 duplicated before or during the week before [PRIOR TO] the convening date of the
7 session and made available to the press and public. A member or member elect may
8 request as sole prime sponsor no more than 10 measures [BILLS] for prefiling and
9 as joint prime sponsor up to an additional 20 measures for prefiling. A draft
10 [DRAFTS] of a measure [PREFILED BILLS] not receiving sponsor approval prior to
11 the agency deadline for numbering and printing the prefiled measures
12 [CONVENING DAY OF THE SESSION] will not be introduced as a prefiled
13 measure [BILLS], but, at the direction of the prime sponsor or of all joint prime
14 sponsors, will be prepared in final form by the agency staff, subject to the demands of
15 assigned interim and pre-session work.

16 (b) Prefiled measures [BILLS] are submitted to each house for formal
17 introduction and first reading at the commencement of the first regular session on the
18 day when the house is organized to the point where it has committees to receive
19 measures [BILLS], or on the first day of the second regular session. Prefiled
20 measures [BILLS] are read and referred to committee in advance of other measures
21 [BILLS].

22 * Sec. 3. Rule 37(a), Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature, is amended to read:

23 (a) Any member, group of members, standing, special, or joint committee may
24 introduce a measure [BILL], subject to the provisions of these Uniform Rules.
25 Measures introduced by members must have at least one prime sponsor or more
26 than one joint prime sponsor, and may have cosponsors. After introduction,
27 when the measure is in the possession of the house of origin and with approval of
28 the prime sponsor or of all joint prime sponsors, additional members may be
29 added as joint prime sponsors or as cosponsors. When the measure is in the
30 possession of the second house, a member of that house may be added as cross
31 cosponsor with the approval of the prime sponsor or of all joint prime sponsors.

1 A measure [BILL] must be introduced, in proper form as approved by the enrolling
2 secretary of the legislature, with the original and three copies delivered to the chief
3 clerk or secretary. The measure [BILL] is then assigned a number, which it retains
4 through subsequent changes and substitutions. The measure [BILL] is considered
5 formally introduced when the clerk or secretary reads the heading and title aloud in
6 open session (first reading). Measures [BILLS] may be introduced through the Rules
7 Committees by the governor and the permanent interim committees pursuant to
8 provisions of law. A member may move to withdraw the member's name as
9 sponsor of a measure when it is in possession of the house in which it was
10 introduced.

Alaska State Legislature

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SPONSOR STATEMENT & SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

HCR 8: UNIFORM RULES: MEASURE SPONSORS/READINGS

"Proposing amendments to the Uniform Rules of the Alaska State Legislature relating to withdrawing measures, to sponsors of measures, to prefiling measures, and to the three readings of bills.

HCR 8 proposes a number of technical changes to the Uniform Rules regarding withdrawing of measures, sponsorship of measures and prefiling of measures.

Sec. 1. Amends Rule 27(b); measures may be withdrawn while in the possession of the house of origin and prior to being transmitted to the second house. Only the prime sponsor, all joint prime sponsors in agreement, or the chair of the committee that introduced the measure may move to withdraw the measure. The existing rule does not address the issue of who may properly attempt to withdraw a measure introduced by more than one sponsor or by a committee

Sec. 2. Amends Rule 36; allows prefiling of all measures, the existing rule allows only prefiling of bills and resolutions proposing amendments to the constitution. All joint prime sponsors must approve a final. Section 2 also increases the number of measures a sponsor may prefile; sponsors may prefile 10 measures as sole prime sponsor and up to an additional 20 measures as joint prime sponsor.

Sec. 3. Amends Rule 37(a); joint prime sponsorship is permitted for any measure introduced by members, not just prefiled legislation. When the measure is in possession of the house of origin, joint prime sponsors may be added after a measure has been introduced, along with cosponsors. When the measure is in possession of the second house, a member of that house may be added as a cross cosponsor. The governor is specifically permitted to introduce all measures, not just bills, through the Rules Committees.

Secs. 4 and 5. Amends Rule 39(b),(d); permits the presiding officer to direct the clerk or secretary to dispense with the first and third reading of the full title of a bill; these sections have been removed in the CS before the committee.

Please contact Allison Laffen at 465-2840 with any questions.

**Alaska State Legislature
House of Representatives**



**Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr.
House District 20**

**Anchorage (Mountain View, Russian Jack, East Anchorage)
House Minority Assistant Floor Leader**

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Email:

Rep.Max.Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us

TO: Representative Bob Lynn
FROM: Representative Max F. Gruenberg, Jr. 
DATE: April 6, 2009
RE: HCR 8: UNIFORM RULES: MEASURE SPONSORS/READINGS

Please consider this memorandum as a request for the House State Affairs Committee to schedule a hearing on HCR 8. Accompanying this memo are the following documents:

- HCR 8 – 26-LS0366\E
- Sponsor Statement & Sectional Analysis

Thank you for considering my request for a hearing on HCR 8.